

The state of Allston-Brighton
—see page 16—
Marriage after 50 years
—see page 11—

THIS WEEK

POLICE BEAT An Allston businesswoman and an Allston resident were advised to seek complaints in Brighton District Court after they were allegedly assaulted by two men in unrelated incidents last week.

BRIEFS Mayor Flynn has scheduled a performance evaluation for Cablevision. Ward committees to meet...Allston-Brighton's new shelter will hold an open house.

OP/ED We think Mazda's settlement with its neighbors was good, but was it necessary?...Lots of letters.

THE

Mrs. William Marchione, Jr.
228 Washington St.
Brighton MA 02135 CR-25

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER VOL. 100, NO. 2 FRIDAY JANUARY 11, 1985 35 CENTS

Local burglary ring cracked

Thefts of over a million in A-B, other city areas

By Tom Rutledge

Boston police have apparently cracked a large-scale, drug-related burglary ring that may be responsible for over 150 apartment break-ins and millions of dollars in thefts in Allston-Brighton, the Fenway, the Back Bay, the South End, Jamaica Plain, Brookline, and West Roxbury over the past six months. As of Thursday, 20 arrests had been made and \$100,000 worth of stolen goods had been recovered. Police say they expect to make more arrests and recover more stolen goods in coming days.

"We've had some great successes with what we're doing," Detective-Sergeant John Mulligan of the Boston Police Department Burglary Task Force said Thursday. The task force has headed up the operation. "These people are some of the major robbers and burglars in the city."

Suspects currently being held have been charged with receiving stolen property and possession of class 'A' drugs with intent to distribute. However, more charges—for example, breaking and entering and armed robbery—are likely as evidence mounts, Mulligan said.

"We're just hitting them with stuff we can hold them with," he said.

Local police began gathering evidence about the ring in June, police officials said. According to those involved with the case, the group allegedly financed its members' heroin habits through burglaries, mostly, and robberies while working out of several Jamaica Plain addresses, including 390



A small sample of the weapons, stolen goods, and items used to cut drugs (lactose) that police say they confiscated in breaking up a burglary ring that may have involved over 150 housebreaks in the Boston area within the last few months.

Centre Street, 10 Bickford Avenue, 58 Mozart Street, and 162 Heath Street. Police began piecing together the story behind the organization's burglaries when a large number of abandoned

stolen cars turned up in the suspects' Jamaica Plain area.

The alleged burglars are suspected of having used five different stolen cars to travel to the sites of the burglaries.

Datsuns in particular were a popular target for theft.

"All these burglars have been using the Datsuns," Mulligan said.

continued on page 10



BC's Laurence Barton.

A step in the right direction

BC, residents meet on student problems in Cleveland Circle

By Joe Clements

Boston College officials, Cleveland Circle residents, and Allston-Brighton civic leaders came together at BC's McGuinn Hall Wednesday night to discuss student disturbances in the Cleveland Circle neighborhood, with BC representatives ultimately outlining a plan that they say will hopefully end a rash of increased student problems in that area. The plan got tentative support from most of the 40-plus community members attending the informal gathering.

"I think it's a step in the right direction," Washington Heights Civic Association member Lucy Tempesta said later. "There are problems, no question about it, but there seems to be some sensitivity on the part of BC as opposed to the other universities. They're addressing the problem—the others aren't."

Wednesday's meeting was called by Community Affairs Director Laurence Barton after a string of complaints by Cleveland Circle residents charging Boston College students with holding loud, late-night parties; exacerbating the parking problem in the area; and causing acts of vandalism to residential property.

Although BC officials consistently maintained that the number of students causing those headaches are in the minority, Barton said that the school does recognize the problem, and that it is concerned. The school has, for example, called several disciplinary actions against students this past semester.

"Clearly since September, the caliber of incidents taking place have been far more serious than in the past," Barton told the group at the start of the two-hour meeting, held in a room that offered a view of Cleveland Circle in the

distance. "The incidents of drinking, noise, and vandalism have taken on a serious measure, and we will take action."

Steps involved in BC's plan of action—introduced at Wednesday's meeting—include:

- a recent letter sent to parents of off-campus students, informing them of the problem and asking them to cooperate;

- stronger disciplinary action against students found creating problems in the neighborhood; and;

- maintaining a closer handle on just where off-campus students are living. "We live in the community" and we want to be part of the community," Rev. Edward Hanrahan, BC's dean of students, told the group. "When we do get a real bona fide complaint, we will go down and find out who lives in that apartment, and we will call them in."

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Catholic Schools week arrives
—see page 10—
Shuttle bus controversy rolls on
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

40 PAGES

POLICE BEAT Boston Police are looking for a young black male who shot an officer in the leg Saturday night during the robbery of a Washington Street supermarket. The gunman fled with about \$3000 in cash.

BRIEFS 2000 Commonwealth Ave. hearing postponed...Allston-Brighton Republicans elect ward committee chairpersons...Two local groups offer scholarships.

OP/ED Students are a symptom of Boston University's conflict with the community; they are not the cause.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER VOL. 100, No. 5 FRIDAY FEBRUARY 8, 1985 35 CENTS

Struggle for the legal tender

By Richard Loran

Even in the best of times, working at Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) must have had its pressures. After all, advocates and support staff have always faced the exhausting task of representing the urban poor, while bringing home very little money compared to other legal professionals.

But these are not the best of times for GBLS. Last week the company's secretaries and paralegals, who have been working without a contract since November, picketed its Essex Street offices to demand better pay. Members



Two paralegals picketing Greater Boston Legal Services last week.

of both the attorneys' and secretaries/paralegals' unions say poor management decisions have caused many experienced staffers to leave the program and have adversely affected client services.

In addition, GBLS, like all legal aid programs, has been under federal attack ever since the election of President Ronald Reagan. For the past four years, Reagan has energetically lobbied to eliminate the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), mother lode to all poverty law programs. And though Congress has offered the president stiff opposition, LSC's 1985 budget is still \$16 million lower than it was in 1981.

GBLS managers say the Reagan attack has caused them to make some tough decisions, like reducing the program's staff from nearly 100 people in 1981 to less than seventy. Executive Director R. Peter Anderson argues that he would like to pay support staff what they want, but that meeting the union's demands could jeopardize the pro-

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Boston University's new community liaison Maureen Hurley, left, and Dean of Students Ronald Carter at Monday's meeting with members of the South Allston neighborhood to discuss off-campus problems with students.

BU delivers relief plan

By Joe Clements

Boston University officials this week revealed their game plan for dealing with unruly students living in Allston-Brighton, and most notably in the South Allston neighborhood that borders BU's Charles River campus. Since September, South Allston has been the site of repeated late-night parties involving hundreds of youths, plus other problems that longtime residents associate with the high concentration of BU students in that community.

BU's proposal, presented Monday night to a group of South Allston residents and local civic leaders, follows one which Boston College introduced last month to residents of Cleveland Circle. BC has a large number of its students living in Cleveland Circle, and

has received complaints similar to Boston University's.

The major components of BU's plan include:

- appointment of a full-time professional who will identify and address the problems among students, residents, and landlords in Allston-Brighton;
- meeting with representatives of Allston-Brighton neighborhood associations and other concerned residents; and
- taking disciplinary action against students about whom complaints have been received.

Among the people introduced at Monday's meeting was Maureen Hurley, named by BU Dean of Students Ronald Carter to be the community liaison. Hurley said later that she sees herself trying to get different

factions to come together.

"My major role will be to try to bring about communication between the four groups involved: the students in the neighborhood, the permanent residents, the university, and the landlords," Hurley said. "Everybody in this situation has a different viewpoint, and I think it's important to make people aware of where the other person is coming from."

During Monday's meeting, Carter and Assistant Dean of Students Christopher Queen told the group that the university has already taken action on students found to have created a disturbance in South Allston. In all, Queen said, 22 students so far have been placed on "deferred suspension."

The next time a legitimate complaint continued on page 16

Is Cablevision tuning access out?

With studio gone, funds feared next

By Esther Shein

Early last week, Cablevision, Inc. of Boston lost a lease for a neighborhood access programming studio at 1168-1170 Commonwealth Avenue in Allston. The building, a former TV studio now owned by Hamilton Realty, was finally rented to Boston Film Productions when Cablevision failed to secure a lease after months of negotiation. Company officials attributed the loss to the extensive financial difficulties Cablevision is experiencing.

Despite the ready excuse, both city officials and members of the Boston Community Access and Programming



The building at 1168 Commonwealth Avenue.

RANDY GOODMAN PHOTOS

Foundation, the organization which would have operated the studio, are not being especially quick to forgive and forget. It was Cablevision's ineptness most responsible for the loss of the studio, they now charge.

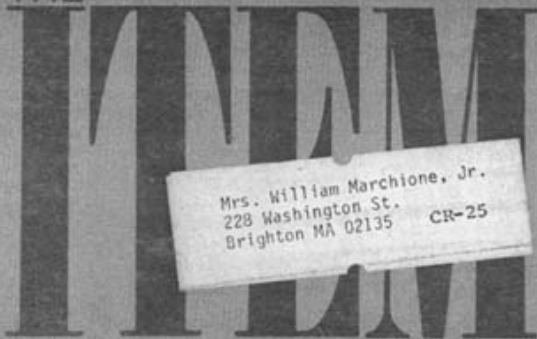
"They blew a great opportunity, and they'd better come up with something else," Thomas Cohan, director for Mayor Raymond Flynn's Office of

Cable Communications, said Tuesday. "We're very disturbed that they let probably the best studio site in the city get away."

"It was an excellent fight, but I deeply regret losing the site," echoed Hubert Jessup, Foundation director.

Helene Solomon, president of the Allston-Brighton Cable Access Council continued on page 8

THE



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Questioning U.S. foreign policy
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Salvucci co-hosts for an Evening
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44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT Two Allston-Brighton stores were hit by armed robbers during the past week, with one gunman making off with about \$60 from a local convenience store and two others taking nearly \$100 from a restaurant.

BRIEFS The city council voted Wednesday to let work continue on 2000 Comm. Ave. A Corey Road blaze reopened an investigation into the use of the burned building.

OP/ED Our publisher says McCormack shouldn't be faulted for sticking to his guns... Whalien on Council's bluff.

VOL. 100, No. 7 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FRIDAY February 15, 1985 35 CENTS

A real and present danger?

By Joe Clements

The unused MBTA trolley tracks that run along Washington Street through Brighton Center are a life-threatening safety hazard, according to several local merchants and observers of the situation. Problems ranging from slippery rails during precipitation to asphalt breaking from the roadbed result in numerous accidents each month, they charge.

"It's a dangerous thing in the sense of people's lives," Charles Kelly, owner of Kelly's Pharmacy in Brighton Center, said recently. "We've had cars come right up on the sidewalk. We've been lucky so far—no one's been hit—but we're going to have a serious accident out there one of these days."

"I am definitely concerned with the fact that we have children crossing the street morning and afternoon and [the possibility of] some automobile going out of control by skidding on the tracks," Gerald McGrath, principal of the nearby Winship School, said Wednesday. "We've had concerned parents calling us about it."

Despite that, both "T" officials and members of a group that wants to return the trolleys to the Brighton Center line said this week that they don't think the situation is as serious as some say it is. Frederick Maloney, head of the Brighton-based Committee for Better Transit, said Wednesday that he disagrees with the complaints.

"I do not consider the streetcar tracks a menace or danger or whatever," said Maloney, who has lobbied for the return of the streetcars ever since the MBTA switched to buses over 15 years ago. "Thousands of



Daniel Handalian, owner of Daniel's Bakery in Brighton Center, points to a spot in front of his store that he says has been responsible for numerous traffic accidents caused by the unused MBTA tracks.

vehicles go by every day and nothing happens."

"I don't see it as a major safety hazard," echoed an MBTA spokesperson Wednesday. "I guess everything is a little hazardous, and you'd have to

compare it to the other hazards we have to deal with in life."

□ Boston Police Department officials say it is nearly impossible to determine

the number of accidents which have occurred along Washington Street, and even more so to say whether an accident was caused by the tracks, but Brighton Center insurance agent John

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City parking program put back in gear

By Joe Clements

Following a meeting in District 9 City Councilor Brian McLaughlin's office last week, Boston Traffic and Parking officials seem to have overcome their final hurdle in gaining community approval for a resident parking program in Brighton's Cleveland Circle. The breakthrough came after the city approved a compromise agreement that would change the enforcement period from 24 hours to a midnight-to-8 a.m. plan.

"I think the rough part is over," Traffic and Parking Commissioner Lisa Chapnick said Wednesday. "I think the bulk of the concerns have been met... [and] I look forward to getting this thing in gear very soon."

Chapnick and other Traffic and Parking officials met in McLaughlin's office



Parking in Cleveland Circle is unbearably crowded, but a compromise reached this week between the city and residents could mean relief in sight.

with members of the Cleveland Circle Citizens for Resident Parking, a group of residents and community leaders who spearheaded the effort to get a sticker parking program in their neighborhood some 17 months ago. Un-

fortunately for both sides, the plan that the city eventually came up with was ultimately opposed by the group for several reasons, the most heated of which was the proposed hours.

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Ward 22 caucus challenged

By Joe Clements

A group of Ward 22 Democrats, who charge that last weekend's precinct caucus violated party rules, have asked the Democratic State Committee to investigate the way in which the meeting was run. Over 200 Ward 22 members turned out at last Saturday's event—held in Allston's William Howard Taft School auditorium—to elect delegates to the spring state convention.

The slate of 21 delegates elected was backed by longtime members of the ward, including former state representative and ward chairman John Melia. Those making the allegations come from an opposition slate which tried un-

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THE



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Spanking new look at Fidelis Way

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Knight of many blueprints

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT Friendly Pharmacy on North Beacon Street and Christy's on Commonwealth Avenue are robbed... Flower vendor attacked... elderly woman assaulted on Strathmore Road... IHOP hit again.

BRIEFS State Democratic Committee to hear Ward 22 protest... President Reagan lauds local couple... Gallagher wants state to blackball banks convicted of felonies.

OP/ED When the quality of life issue becomes a life and death one, it's time to stand up and demand change.

VOL. 100, No. 8 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FRIDAY February 22, 1985 35 CENTS

Sizing up St. Sebastian's

Buyer may go for 400 units; residents won't

By Joe Clements

A Newton developer has secured an option to buy the former St. Sebastian's Country Day School on the Brighton/Newton line, and is rumored to be planning up to 400 units of housing on the 15-acre site. Alan Green, the developer, denied Thursday that any numbers or plans have thus far been formulated.

"We have not come up with a program as of yet," Green said. "It will be housing... [but] we're presently looking at all different possibilities how we might adapt that land."

But a reliable source, who asked to remain anonymous, told the *Item* this week that Green is considering "300 to 400 units in six- or seven-story" buildings on the property, and said that the bulk of it would be concentrated on the Brighton side. Six of the 15 acres are in Brighton.

In addition, At-Large City Councilor Michael McCormack said Thursday that he has met with Green, and that the developer was "throwing around" a plan for a residential health-care facility for the elderly. That facility would have about 400 units of housing, McCormack said.

"What he proposed to me was not conventional housing like condominiums or townhouses," he said.



Ever since the St. Sebastian's Country Day School closed in January 1983, the grounds have become a hangout for bad graffiti artists and wandering youth. Now a developer has a purchase and sale agreement on the 15-acre property.

"...It's going to be a self-contained sort of retirement home, whereby the people living there would have all their services available on the site."

St. Sebastian's officials, who moved the school to Needham in January of 1983, have tried to unload the property ever since, and have already come

head-to-head with community members and civic leaders on one attempt to sell the land. Community members successfully blocked an attempt by a Connecticut firm to buy St. Sebastian's and build up to 1,600 apartments in early 1983.

St. Sebastian's trustees acknowledged the tentative agreement with Green, and said a previous proposal to sell the land to the state for a police academy is now officially dead. Trustee Vice-Chairman Bradley Griffith said that they are pleased with Green as the designated developer.

"I think Mr. Green is one of the premier residential developers in the Boston area," Griffith said Wednesday. "We're very excited about the fact that he wants to do the project—you couldn't ask for a better developer."

State Rep. William Galvin (D-Allston-Brighton) said Thursday that he is aware of several Green developments in the Cape Cod area, and is pleased with what he has seen. He will, however, reserve judgement on the St. Sebastian's site until a plan is presented, Galvin said.

"I don't think I or anybody can make a fair judgement until he tells us what he's talking about," said Galvin, one of the staunchest opponents to the Connecticut developer's plan. "He's got to be able to flesh out his proposal a lot more concretely before anyone's going to be able to react to it."

One thing is sure: If Green's plan is in the 300- to 400-unit range, neighbors and civic leaders will oppose the project. David DiCicco, owner of Dave's Gulf in Brighton Center and an immediate abutter to the St. Sebastian's

continued on page 7



Ray Flynn has a new revenue plan.

Ray's man visits ACA

By Esther Shein

An entertainment tax, a parking tax and an increased hotel/motel tax were just some of the proposals local residents heard about as ways to create increased revenue for the city of Boston at the Allston Civic Association's monthly meeting Tuesday night.

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Did broken light cause fatality?

By Esther Shein

Residents who live near the intersection of Washington Street and Fidelis Way in Brighton, the scene of a fatal automobile accident last Friday night, say they believe the tragedy may have been avoided if a street light above the intersection had been working at the time.

The victim, 82-year-old Margarita Teusaba of 44 Union Street, Brighton, was struck at 5:45 p.m. by a car driven by Brighton resident Richard Wood as she crossed the street. She was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

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One of the cars involved in Monday's fatal accident, in which a 25-year-old Brighton man died.

THE HINDEN

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Celebrating Brighton's past
—see page 10—
Giving kids a Head Start
—see page 8—

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT Eight businesses in Allston-Brighton were robbed at gunpoint last week, including a Cleveland Circle gas station which was robbed of about \$1,000 early Tuesday morning. Police are investigating.

BRIEFS City files complaint after Corey Road fire. City Assessor William Coughlin will speak in Allston-Brighton this week. The city will auction off a Union Street eyesore.

OP/ED Song of Fairbanks... Death is never an expected guest... The return of Freddy the fruit fly.

Vol. 100, No. 9 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FRIDAY March 1, 1985 35 CENTS

Not 'duking' it out in Brighton

Kitty Dukakis backs off on liquor license

By Joe Clements

A group of local civic leaders were set to square off with Governor Michael Dukakis' wife, Katharine, Wednesday night over her support for a liquor license being sought by a Russian restaurant in Brighton, but the bout didn't come off when Mrs. Dukakis apparently decided to heed community concerns against the proposal. Owners of the Fantasy restaurant, a weekend establishment on Chiswick Road, were turned down for a beer and wine license just over a year ago.

The issue resurfaced last week when owners Arik Aronov and Gregory Blyachman asked for a meeting between members of Allston-Brighton neighborhood associations and Mrs. Dukakis, a friend of the Blyachman family. The meeting was arranged through District 9 City Councilor Brian McLaughlin, a longtime opponent of any new liquor licenses in the community.

According to Larry Blacke, attorney for the owners, the meeting was called to "explore the possibilities of expanding the [restaurant] to include a liquor license."

"There's two major reasons," Blacke said. "One is to get feedback on the impressions in the neighborhood now that



Katherine "Kitty" Dukakis, wife of Massachusetts' Governor, was in Allston-Brighton Wednesday night trying to convince community members to support a liquor license for owners of the Fantasy Restaurant on Chiswick Road. Instead, residents apparently convinced Mrs. Dukakis that they have legitimate reasons against her request.

the restaurant has been operating a year... and two, to see what conditions and restrictions could we work out to satisfy the neighborhood if we did reapply for a beer and wine license."

Several people invited to the informal meeting, held inside the restaurant, said beforehand that they thought Mrs.

Dukakis would attempt to pressure them into reversing their opposition. Instead, she told the group at the beginning that she was there mainly to listen.

"I would never be arrogant enough to tell the people from this area what to do," she told the group of about 20

people. "It is up to the community to make it's own decision."

Mrs. Dukakis, who has taken an active role in helping refugees from war-torn countries such as Cambodia and Vietnam, did ask the group to consider supporting a liquor license to the Fantasy restaurant.

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Getting the needle in Brighton.

The point is better health

By Brigitte Raquet

To those who don't know better, the word "acupuncture" might conjure up the image of a Chinese man tolerating dozens of needles sticking into the body—much like an oversized pin-cushion.

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BU: housing shortage is only 'rumor'

By Esther Shein

A story recently published by a Boston University student newspaper stating that seniors may be excluded from on-campus housing next year because of a shortage of 900 bed spaces is nothing more than "rumor" and "misrepresentation" according to Joseph Mercurio, chairman of the school's Housing Planning Committee. Since large numbers of off-campus students choose to live in Allston-Brighton neighborhoods because of their proximity to BU's campus, an event such as the one the article suggests could have staggering implications for local residents.

The article, written by *Daily Free Press* staff writer Donald Van Natta Jr., quoted Mercurio as saying, "In order to accommodate the incoming freshmen, we may have to exclude a



BU officials say a school paper's story about a 900 bed space shortage is a "misrepresentation" of the facts. Others don't think it is.

continued on page 14

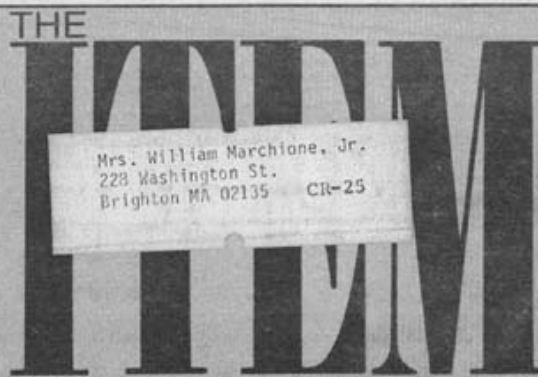
Aliston-Brighton gets its Irish up
—see page 12—
For seniors, the house call is back
—see page 9—

52 PAGES

POLICE BEAT A Commonwealth Court, Brighton, woman was assaulted and robbed last Friday night by a white male who burst into her apartment and attacked her as she slept. The man escaped with \$250.

BRIEFS The Ward 22 Democratic Party caucus will be re-held March 30, after a ruling that the original one violated party rules. Hung's Food Factory has been sold.

Station 14: Flynn should be held accountable...
Where's Myles?... Vintage idiocyncracies in Allston.



PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884

FRIDAY MARCH 15, 1985 35 CENTS

By Joe Clements

A recent Massachusetts Supreme Court decision against Allston-Brighton landlord Harold Brown could have implications well beyond the rental housing market, consumer experts and officials involved in the case said this week. The court's ruling—stemming from Brown's use of illegal clauses in tenant leases—is expected to cost the principal owner of Hamilton Realty well over \$100,000 in damages and attorneys fees.

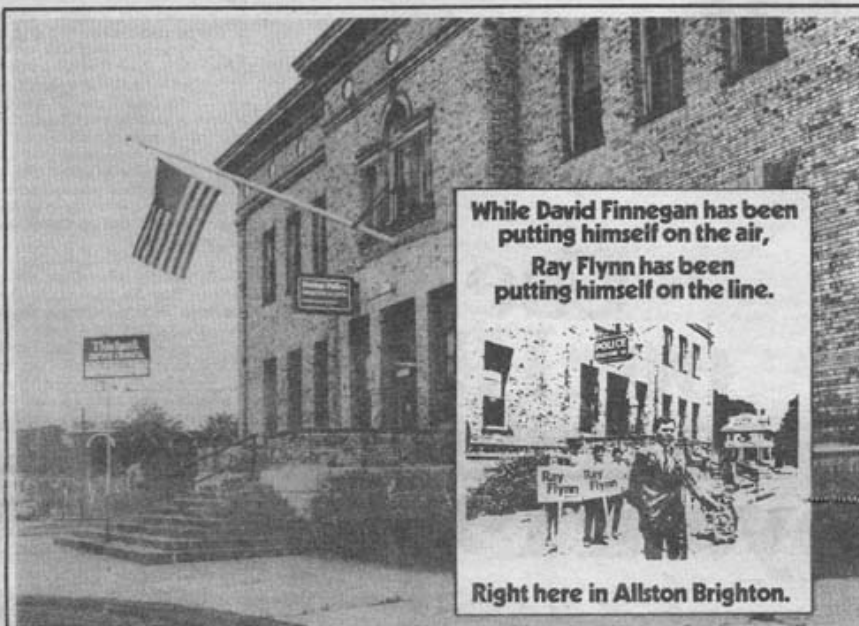
In the decision, the court said that Brown is liable for damages because he included several illegal clauses in his leases during 1950. The novelty of it, according to tenant lawyer Harvey S. Shapiro, is that the court did not re-



Hamilton Realty on Brighton Ave.

quire proof that the tenants were aware of the clauses, or that Brown actually ever tried to enforce them.

"The court ruled that with the state legislature's 1979 amendment to the State Consumer Protection Act... the legislature created a right to damages for the invasion of a legally protected interest without a showing of actual harm," Shapiro stated. "Here tenants were given *disinformation* about their rights which clearly had the tendency to mislead or chill them in the exercise of those rights."



Community residents are upset about the delays in Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn's pledge to reopen Station 14 in Brighton Center. The Mayor says money troubles are the reason. Inset: A piece of Ray's campaign literature from the 1983 campaign, a time when cash flow didn't seem like such a stumbling block.

By Esther Shein

As most people in Allston-Brighton are aware, Boston Police Station 14 in Brighton has been a mere shadow of its former self ever since financial cutbacks caused by Proposition 2½ forced its closing back in 1981. When former Mayor Kevin White reopened the station a while later, it was staffed with but a small percentage of the 100-plus

force that had operated from there beforehand.

In announcing his candidacy for Mayor in front of Station 14 in 1981, Raymond Flynn pledged a commitment to seeing it reopened as the station it once had been. Flynn reiterated that pledge again last year when he announced—on the same spot—that a police sexual assault unit would be increased and moved to Station 14.

Throughout it all, residents remained hopeful.

But now, following a recent statement from newly-appointed Police Commissioner Francis M. Roache that there are insufficient funds to do so, community members and civic leaders are more pessimistic.

City Councilors Michael McCormack and Brian McLaughlin, of Brighton,

The BAIA has

By Joe Clements

March, 1980—In a move that is sending shock waves throughout Brighton, the officers and board of directors of the Brighton Citizen's Association were unseated Monday as a record number of voters turned out to cast their votes for a new slate. The composition of the new board triggered charges of a city hall takeover, with ousted members charging that Boston Mayor Kevin White wanted to control the BCA by filling its leadership with his supporters.

"It's bossism and machine politics," declared Robert Tarpey, defeated in his



BAIA members plan for the upcoming annual meeting and five-year anniversary.

At St. A's, the show goes on
—see page 12—
Designing away blight
—see page 9—

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

52 PAGES

POLICE BEAT There were a number of armed robberies reported in Allston and Brighton during the past week. One of the victims was a 62-year-old Commonwealth Avenue man.

BRIEFS Deadline approaches for "Park Partners"...Harold Brown considers lawsuit against his lawyers...Local woman looks for restaurant license.

OP/ED Happy fifth to the Brighton Improvement...Looking back at quarter days...Dibs, dats and nonsense.

THE ITEM

VOL. 100, NO. 12 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FRIDAY MARCH 22, 1985 35 CENTS

End of the line for Inspectional Services?



Left to right: City councilors Brian McLaughlin, Maura Hennigan, and James Kelly. The trio are behind a plan to be released next week that would radically alter the way Inspectional Services is run today. ISD has been under constant fire lately on charges that it isn't living up to its duties.

By Joe Clements

If all goes as planned, District 9 City Councilor Brian McLaughlin next week will introduce his long-awaited blueprint for revamping the city's Inspectional Services Department. McLaughlin, whose Government Regulations Committee has been working on the issue for the past five months, is expected to present his committee's findings and suggestions to the full city council on Wednesday.

The Inspectional Services Department, which provides a myriad of functions in the city, has been the brunt of numerous complaints from residents, civic groups, and city councilors themselves over its ability to carry out those functions. A 1984 report from a Raymond Flynn administration official concluded that the department should be rearranged. McLaughlin, in his report, will agree.

"I think the department is just too big as it now stands," McLaughlin said

in an *Item* interview Wednesday. "And I think that a dismantling of ISD will mean a better performance."

The approach to overhauling ISD, as proposed by committee members McLaughlin, Maura Hennigan, and James Kelly, is essentially three-pronged. The first will involve structural changes—the splitting up of ISD's major departments into either separate entities or a transfer to another area of the city's administration. For example, McLaughlin said the Weights and

Measures Department may have a "logical connection" to the Consumer Affairs Division. Weights and Measures monitors things like scales in city supermarkets and gas pumps at Boston service stations.

ISD functions that would likely become separate departments include the building department, the housing inspection division, the environmental health division, and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Each currently has

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Mediator head Richard Cohen.

Working things out

By Esther Shein

There's a new program in effect in two Allston-Brighton public housing developments that may give Boston court officials who are swamped with cases something to smile about. Known as the "Faneuil/Community Mediation Program," the project has already successfully resolved some tenant disputes before they are forced into the court system. According to Richard Cohen, program coordinator, the program is somewhat unique.

"It's one of the first attempts to get mediation into public housing anywhere," Cohen said.

He said the idea of mediation is to get people to sit down—with their peers listening—and get them to discuss their problems in a rational manner. Traditionally, Cohen said, people are not used to sitting down and discussing a conflict.

"We're raised towards the adversarial system—fighting, suing. I think that's true across the board in our society," Cohen said. "Mediation is now being used with greater frequency. It's a positive development to get people to work cooperatively towards an agreement they're satisfied with."

Cohen said there are many advantages... continued on page 10

The Brighton Library:
It's not just for reading anymore
(but its still all about learning)
—see page 10—

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

48 PAGES

POLICE BEAT A Commonwealth Avenue convenience store was held up twice within three days last week, the first time for \$35 and the second for nearly \$2,000. Police are still looking for the crooks.

BRIEFS After months of construction, a new Store 24 will open in Brighton. The abandoned "Hung's" will be up for auction. A local civic claims BU is blacklisting its members.

OP/ED Cablevision should pay for public access. Whalen on talk shows. Kennedy on Allison's supremacy.

THE

Mrs. William Marchione, Jr.
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VOL. 100, NO. 13 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FRIDAY MARCH 29, 1985 35 CENTS

Taking it to the limit

Deadline looms for \$250,000 public access check

By Joe Clements

The financial timebomb continues to tick away for public access programming in the city, with Cablevision of Boston saying it cannot fork over the \$250,000 it will owe the access network by the Monday, April 1st due date. Despite that, the Boston Community

Access and Programming Foundation says it will not budge in expecting Cablevision to fulfill its contract.

Meanwhile, city councilors Thursday unanimously passed a resolution directing Mayor Raymond Flynn to require that Cablevision meet the semi-annual payoff. Cablevision has been attempting to negotiate down its obligation to

the Foundation, which by contract is supposed to equal five percent of the company's annual gross revenues.

"We feel that Cablevision should not be let off the hook," resolution sponsor Charles Yancey (District 4) said Wednesday. "The most attractive feature of Cablevision operating in the city of
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The Neighborhood Network News, one of the more successful shows produced by the Boston Community Access Programming Foundation could go under if Cablevision doesn't deliver its semi-annual check by Monday.

Ward 22 caucus set for Saturday

By Esther Shein

By mid-afternoon tomorrow, March 30th, the second Ward 22 Democratic caucus in two months should finally be over with. Still, some local Democrats say they have mixed feelings about the caucus being re-held. The Democratic State Committee invalidated the original caucus, held Feb. 9th, and committee members from outside Allston-Brighton's state senate district will conduct tomorrow's affair.

The caucus, held to elect delegates to this May's Democratic State Convention, will begin at 2 p.m. at the William Howard Taft School on Warren Street.

The original caucus was the largest held in the state. Members of the losing slate, who attempted to defeat a group led by long-time chairman John Melia, successfully challenged the February caucus' legality. According to
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Massachusetts Democratic State Committee officials James Spencer, standing, and Stanley Rosenberg will help monitor the Ward 22 caucus Saturday.



Reservoir Towers, Continental Wingate's 16-story apartment building, abuts the 1933 Comm. Ave. site

McLaughlin peeved over loan process

By Joe Clements

Developers of a proposed seven-story apartment building in Brighton pledged this week to meet with the community on the issue, but District 9 City Councilor Brian McLaughlin said Wednesday that state officials still haven't sufficiently explained to him why the project received public funding without input from himself and other local civic leaders.

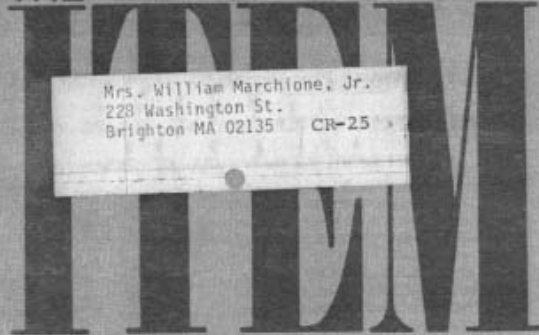
McLaughlin is upset because the developers, Continental Wingate, were given a below-market rate loan from the State Housing Assistance Rental Program (SHARP) before approaching the community with the plans for the site in question, located at 1933 Commonwealth Avenue. SHARP is a highly-competitive program which gives loan subsidies to builders who dedicate part of their project to low- and moderate-income housing. Twelve of the 48 units planned for Continental's structure would be in that category.

"I think there's more here than meets the eye," McLaughlin said Wednesday. "I don't see any logical response [from the state] that will be able to say 'This is why we did this.'"

McLaughlin hasn't received a reply from a letter to Dukakis in early March demanding to know the method used in granting the funds to Continental Wingate. In that letter, McLaughlin stated that he was "...very much concerned that this selection...circumvents the community review process."

"I want an answer about the [loan] process," McLaughlin said Wednesday.
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Reading by writers, a class act
—see page 9—
Community Boating sails along
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT Several armed robberies occurred in Allston-Brighton during the past week, including one last Thursday night at Stadium Gas on Western Avenue in Brighton in which nearly \$800 was taken.

BRIEFS District Attorney agrees that BU cop should not be prosecuted... Faneuil tenants fight to keep public housing public... ABCD offers teens jobs for the summer.

OP/ED Parks are nice, but some are planned poorly... Molly on The Caucus... Pinedo looks back at Easter.

A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER VOL. 100, NO. 14 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 FRIDAY April 5, 1985 35 CENTS

Preservation prayers go unanswered

City says St. Gabe's talks are dead; residents go for historic designation

By Joe Clements

Owners of the former St. Gabriel's Monastery in Brighton have apparently broken off talks aimed at detailing long-range preservation plans for the 14-acre site, city officials said this week. The announcement comes after months of trying to get the Archdiocese-backed owners to work out an agreement that would satisfy nearby residents concerned with the future of the property.

Simultaneously, a coalition of local community groups and civic leaders said they will reinstate their drive to get the Washington Street parcel designated as a landmark district. The group agreed last year to put off that effort while the city negotiated with the owners. St. Gabriel's is currently occupied by St. Elizabeth's Hospital Foundation, Inc., a fundraising arm of the abutting St. Elizabeth's Hospital which bought the property a few years ago.

"We felt the time has now come to set the [landmark] process in motion again," William Marchione, Boston school committee member and curator of the Brighton Historical Society, said Wednesday. "The negotiations have been protracted—it's gone on and on and no progress has been made."

"We've let the [Mayor Raymond] Flynn administration handle the case for over a year now, and they haven't produced any agreement," echoed District 9 City Councilor Brian McLaughlin. "They went through a route with the prospect of seeking an agreement

outside of landmark designation, and it just didn't work out."

That's essentially what has happened, according to John LaCroix, chief negotiator for the Mayor. Despite a few meetings with Archdiocesan attorney Wilson Rogers, LaCroix said that nothing concrete ever materialized.

"There's never been a response, unless you consider no response a response," LaCroix said. "For all intents and purposes, the negotiations never got off the ground."

The group pushing for landmark designation agreed against pursuing such action when Flynn—who has publicly supported preservation of the grounds—tried the compromise route. In a letter to Rogers last August, LaCroix said that the designation would not be sought if the owners agreed to 14 conditions, including:

- Never to demolish, destroy or alter architecturally the Monastery and grounds;
- to maintain the existing landscaping and open space scheme of the Monastery grounds;
- to downzone the property, and;
- to refrain from constructing additional buildings on the Monastery grounds.

Rogers refused to comment on the issue, but LaCroix said he believes the owners feel they can convince the Boston Landmark Commission that the property is not worthy of designation.

"Apparently they feel they're not going to have any problem or else they'd

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St. Gabriel's Monastery in Brighton, the focus of a battle between its new owners and nearby residents, who want assurances that the site will be preserved.

Same time, same place, and same result

Rescheduled Ward 22 caucus attracts 340 in record turnout

By Esther Shein

group led by Ward Chairman John Melia.

In a repeat performance, almost every state convention delegate voted in at February's Ward 22 caucus was re-elected during a second caucus last weekend at the Taft School. Chaired by members of the Massachusetts State Democratic Committee, the caucus at the William Howard Taft School drew 340 voters, as compared to the 203 residents who turned out the first time.

The caucus was rescheduled after the committee declared the first one invalid for violating Party rules. The legality of the first caucus was challenged by a group of Ward 22 Democrats who unsuccessfully ran on a slate opposing a

For many attendees, this was their second caucus and, upon a motion by candidate Leo McCusker, the two-minute speech allowed any candidate was suspended. However, the vote on the motion was a close one, and some residents and candidates felt that people were giving up a basic right.

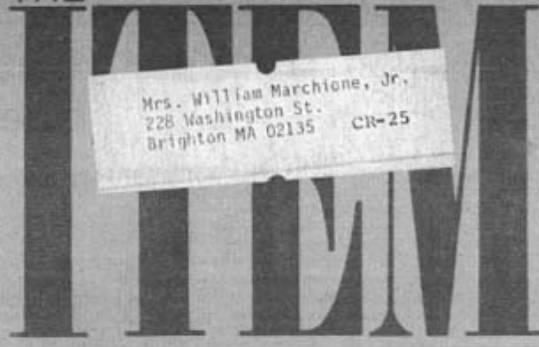
"What bothers me here today is that people gave up the opportunity to show their faces. It's nice to be able to see who's running," said a distraught Dorothy Moulla, one candidate who was not elected. "I've lived in Brighton for several years, and more than half

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John Melia, immediate right, looks over the crowd of 340 voters who came to Saturday's Ward 22 caucus, held after February's caucus was ruled invalid.

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Eating ethnic is easy

—see page 10—

Cleveland Circle border truce

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44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT A robbery at the Patriot Bank on Commonwealth Avenue in Brighton was foiled last Tuesday when a packet of red dye exploded as the man who held up the bank was fleeing. All the cash was recovered.

BRIEFS Racial incident sparks demonstration. Comm. Ave. developers to meet with residents. Senior forum scheduled for next week. Planning begins for A-B parade.

OPI/ED Allston-Brighton is a mess. Pick up, people... The laundromat vigilante... Stopping a killer disease.

A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER VOL. 100, NO. 15 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 FRIDAY April 12, 1985 35 CENTS

Mastering our own destiny

Some advocate plan for future

By Joe Clements

Around the vacant lot at 85 Brainerd Road in Allston, crews have erected a high wooden fence and are ready to begin work on a six-story, 70-unit condominium building, with 10 separate townhouses to go up behind that. Developer Harold Brown is in the midst of constructing a 64-unit townhouse project on North Beacon Street. Along busy Western Avenue, the frame for Heritage Associates' five-story office building is already up and each day moves nearer to completion.

All of these cases are indicative of Allston-Brighton's current building boom. For a variety of reasons, the entire community is becoming increasingly attractive for both commercial and residential developers to locate their latest projects. And for an equal variety of reasons, many long-time residents are becoming increasingly concerned over what Allston-Brighton's newfound popularity will mean for the quality of life here in years to come. Enter *The Master Plan*.

In order to bring some uniformity and control to the development trend, continued on page 6



Heritage Associates' office building under construction on Western Avenue in Allston. Local civic members say the building boom is increasing congestion and other problems locally, and say a master plan is needed for the area.

A-B's Soviet Jews look for help to unite families

Galvin serves up resolution

By Esther Shein

Like most mothers, Tamara Alievskaya is proud of her daughter, Irina, and always eager to talk about her. And when she does, as on Tuesday, Alievskaya frequently motions towards several different pictures of her sibling scattered about her modest one-bedroom apartment on Commonwealth Avenue in Brighton.

Alievskaya's voice changes to a more wistful tone, though, when she speaks in her heavy accent of how much she misses 36-year-old Irina, whom she left behind in Leningrad, Russia, and hasn't seen since 1978.

Historically, Soviet Jews have had a hard time obtaining exit visas to leave the USSR, though the numbers permitted to leave fluctuates yearly, and according to the whims of different leaders.

"From 1977 to 1979 there was a big immigration from the Soviet Union be-

cause of detente. The biggest number—about 50,000—left in 1979," said Alievskaya's son, Sergei, 31. That number was drastically decreased to 894 in 1984.

Presently, many Russian Jews who have made it to this country, but whose relatives remain in the homeland, are waiting to see how newly-elected Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev addresses the issue. Locally, however, steps are already being taken to encourage a favorable reaction from the new leader.

District 19 Rep. William Galvin last week sponsored a resolution of the Massachusetts Legislature requesting President Ronald Reagan to instruct U.S. negotiators, ambassadors and diplomats to add human rights to their negotiations agenda this spring. Galvin said there are "several thousand" Soviet Jews living in Allston-Brighton, concentrated in the area of Harvard Avenue up to Wallingford Street.

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Tamara Alievskaya of Brighton is hoping that a resolution sponsored by Rep. William Galvin will help in her efforts to get her daughter out of Russia.

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The new New Year
—see page 10—
That flowering feeling
—see page 8—

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT An Allston man was robbed of \$7,000 by two assailants who beat him as he returned home from a Chinatown lounge. A market on Commonwealth Ave. was once again victimized by an armed robber.

BRIEFS Allston VFW to honor longtime member... BU bus route rides again... Fire Dept. to begin annual inspections of buildings... CCBG hearings to be held locally.

OPIED Allston-Brighton is not the cold, hard place some might think. Molloy says we all must reach time.

A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER VOL 100, NO. 16 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 FRIDAY APRIL 19, 1985 35 CENTS

A developing controversy

Residents criticize proposal for Brighton apartment building



Brian McLaughlin, left, and James Meleones, right. Center is the present building at 1933 Comm. Ave.

By Joe Clements

Allston-Brighton civic leaders and nearby residents of a proposed seven-story apartment building at 1933 Commonwealth Avenue turned out in force Wednesday night to meet with developers of the project, Continental Wingate Corp. And the message from many of those packed into the room at a Boston College hall was simple—the planned 48-unit building is too large. "I find it interesting that you don't go a mile down the road and try to build this thing in Newton," Brighton Allston Improvement Association member Robert Tarpey told the Continental Wingate representatives. "And the rea-

son that you don't is that you'd be beaten down in a minute."

But the developers, who will go before the Boston Zoning Board of Appeals next Tuesday seeking seven variances for the site, responded to the often-emotional crowd of over 50 by saying the number of units is as low as the company could go. That is especially true, according to project manager James Meleones, because partial funding for the building will come through the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency's State Housing Assistance for Rental Production (SHARP) program.

"The 48 units under SHARP is a minimum number of units we can put up there in order to make a profit,"

Meleones said. "It just doesn't work otherwise."

Also defending the size of the proposal was building architect Willy Sclarsic of Eisenberg Haven Associates. Sclarsic said that the surrounding neighborhood was taken into consideration when Claridge House—the building's official name—was being designed.

"We're not proposing a high rise; we're not proposing a tower," Sclarsic said. "We feel the size of our building will be exactly within the scale of the other buildings on Commonwealth Avenue."

Not so, BAIA member Margaret McNally said.

"You're going to put 48 units on a piece of land where there's a single-family home now," McNally noted. "I don't think you should have [that many.] Why don't you put in a lower number?"

Parking—or lack of same—was a major concern of many at the meeting, with residents saying that the added population will likely be accompanied with additional automobiles. The Upper Commonwealth Avenue area has an undeniably serious parking problem.

"What are we supposed to do—put cars on top of one another? Build two-story streets?" commented resident Wyn Saow. "I think it's atrocious."

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Brighton day care center plan aired out at meeting

By Esther Shein

Supporters and critics of a plan to start a daycare center at an Oak Square women's clinic squared off in a meeting on the issue Tuesday night at the very site of the controversy—the Crittenton Hastings House on Perthshire Road. Officials at the clinic are proposing to start a center in a vacant chapel on the property, hoping to operate a program that would care for 34 children.

Many of the people attending Tuesday voiced concern over the increase in parking that such a center would bring. The underlying is,

that the Hastings House also performs abortions on the premises.

"You're killing them in one area and housing them in the next," one woman yelled from the audience at one point of the heated meeting.

Crittenton Hastings, a non-profit, privately-funded organization, was constructed in 1910. It currently houses an abortion clinic; a resident program for pregnant teenagers who can live there and continue their education; and a day program for pregnant women to receive counseling and prenatal care.

Elaine Ferah, director of development, told the group attending that

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Crittenton Hastings House director of development Elaine Ferah out in front of the Perthshire Road clinic.

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Local heroes
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Literacy for a new life
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

44 PAGES

POLICE BEAT Police apprehended a Brighton man on Cape Cod Tuesday who was being sought in connection with several local holdups. A series of robberies and purse snatchings occurred in Allston last Monday night.

BRIEFS Zoning board postpones vote on 1933 Comm Ave. BU won before the state again this week on its shuttle bus. A survey on the Fairview public housing was released.

OP/ED Things may be improving at the TBA. Clyde takes Channel 5... Kennedy on the sounds of spring.

A PAID CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER VOL. 100, NO. 17 PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ALLSTON-BRIGHTON SINCE 1884 FRIDAY APRIL 26, 1985 35 CENTS

Burning bright once again



Firefighters see big turnaround

By Joe Clements

Boston Fire Department Lieutenant Charlie Parillo can remember the time when he and his men responded to a fire at Harvard University and were approached by a professor there who asked if they had just come from a parade.

"That's how old the truck we had was," Parillo, who leads Ladder Company 14 out of Allston's Union Square, recounted Wednesday. "The guy thought it was an antique."

That probably won't happen again, or at least not for quite awhile. Thanks to an extensive capital improvement campaign launched under the Raymond Flynn administration, Ladder 14 received a brand new, \$208,000 truck last November. And that was just one of four new trucks delivered to Allston-Brighton's three stations in recent months.

"It's really a beautiful piece of machinery," Parillo said of the new Ladder 14. "It's superior to anything the city's ever had."

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Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn addresses a crowd of firefighters, politicians, and local residents at last Saturday's ceremonies commemorating the arrival of new fire equipment in the Allston-Brighton area.

Hearing on CDBG held Funds are tight for coming year

By Esther Shein

Boston's Neighborhood Development and Employment Agency held a hearing Monday night to solicit proposals from local groups and individuals for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The city is expected to receive \$22.4 million in the coming year through the federal Housing and Urban Development Department for housing rehabilitation and commercial development activities.

Monday's hearing, held at the Jackson/Mann Community School, was chaired by City Councilor Michael McCormack and NDEA Director Paul Grogan. McCormack said the city is receiving \$4 million less this year due to federal budget cutbacks, and said he thinks funding in the coming years will be "much more draconian."

Grogan agreed.

"It's going to look bleak for the following year," he said. "We're going to

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An audience member listens at last week's elder issues forum at the Allston-Brighton Senior Center. The head speaker was Frank Manning.

Manning: Benefits are in jeopardy Elderly forum at senior center

By Esther Shein

About 70 people gathered at the Allston-Brighton Senior Center last Thursday to hear the president of the Legislative Council Of Older Americans speak on government proposals that would cut benefits for the elderly. Frank Manning, 82, a crusader of senior citizens' rights, also told the group what they can do to protect social security, medicare, and housing rights.

Manning painted a gloomy picture of the future for the country's elderly if Congress institutes some of the measures that have been proposed. He said Medicare, a health care program that primarily serves senior citizens was, in the 1960's "the first to recognize that people who are entitled to it are by right, not by benefit."

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